

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication terminal comprising:
acquiring means for acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;
receiving means for receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal when purchasing the commodity or service;
verifying means for verifying the application through use of the public key; and
transferring means for transferring the value entity to conduct electronic procurement through the ad hoc network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when the verifying means successfully verifies the application; and
deleting means for deleting the application after a predetermined time has elapsed since a time when the receiving means received the application.
2. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal according to Claim 1, wherein the verifying means initiates verification of the application ~~in conjunction with an opportunity where after~~ the receiving means receives the application, and
the communication terminal further comprises starting means for starting the application ~~in conjunction with an opportunity where after~~ the verifying means successfully verifies the application.
3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The communication terminal according to Claim 1, further comprising:~~ A communication terminal comprising:

acquiring means for acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;

receiving means for receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal when purchasing the commodity or service;

verifying means for verifying the application through use of the public key;

transferring means for transferring the value entity to conduct electronic procurement through the ad hoc network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when the verifying means successfully verifies the application; and

deleting means for, when a communication with a sender of the application is disconnected after the reception of the application by the receiving means, deleting the application ~~in conjunction with an opportunity where~~ after a predetermined time has elapsed since the disconnection of the communication.

5. (Previously Presented) A value entity providing server comprising providing means for providing a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, through a cellular network, for the communication terminal as set forth in Claim 1.

6. (Original) The value entity providing server according to Claim 5, wherein the providing means transmits the public key separately from the value entity to the communication terminal, prior to the provision of the value entity.

7. (Original) The value entity providing server according to Claim 5, wherein the public key is posted on a server accessible from a plurality of terminals through the cellular network.

8. (Original) The value entity providing server according to Claim 5, further comprising second verifying means for verifying integrity of the communication terminal before the providing means provides the value entity.

9. (Original) An application delivery server comprising:
application transmitting means for transmitting the application through the ad hoc network to the communication terminal as set forth in Claim 1; and
value entity acquiring means for acquiring the value entity transferred by the transferring means of the communication terminal, through the ad hoc network.

10. (Original) The application delivery server according to Claim 9, further comprising:

receipt transmitting means for, when the value entity acquiring means acquires the value entity, transmitting receipt data electronically expressing receipt of the value entity, via the ad hoc network to the communication terminal.

11. (Original) The application delivery server according to Claim 9, further comprising third verifying means for verifying integrity of the communication terminal before the transmitting means transmits the application.

12. (Currently Amended) An electronic procurement supporting method comprising:

acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;

receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal when purchasing the commodity or service;

verifying the application through use of the public key; and

transferring the value entity to conduct procurement through the ad hoc network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when the application is successfully verified; and

deleting the application after a predetermined time has elapsed since a time when the receiving means received the application.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An electronic procurement supporting program which can be executed by a communication terminal, the electronic procurement supporting program performing steps A computer readable storage medium encoded with instructions, which when executed by a computer causes the computer to implement an electronic procurement supporting method comprising:~~

acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;

receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal when purchasing the commodity or service;

verifying the application through use of the public key; and

transferring the value entity to conduct electronic procurement through the ad hoc network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when the application is successfully verified; and

deleting the application after a predetermined time has elapsed since a time when the receiving means received the application.

14. (New) An electronic procurement supporting method comprising:
 - acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key, the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;
 - receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal when purchasing the commodity or service;
 - verifying the application through use of the public key; and
 - transferring the value entity to conduct procurement through the ad hoc network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when the application is successfully verified; and
 - deleting, when a communication with a sender of the application is disconnected after the reception of the application by the receiving means, the application after a predetermined time has elapsed since the disconnection of the communication.

15. (New) A computer readable storage medium encoded with instructions, which when executed by a computer causes the computer to implement an electronic procurement supporting method comprising:

acquiring a value entity accompanied by a public key corresponding to a private key,
the value entity usable as a charge in electronic procurement;

receiving an application electronically signed by the private key, through an ad hoc
network, the application for transmitting the value entity of an amount equivalent to a
consideration of a commodity or service to a device external to the communication terminal
when purchasing the commodity or service;

verifying the application through use of the public key; and

transferring the value entity to conduct electronic procurement through the ad hoc
network to a device external to the communication terminal by use of the application when
the application is successfully verified; and

deleting, when a communication with a sender of the application is disconnected after
the reception of the application by the receiving means, the application after a predetermined
time has elapsed since the disconnection of the communication.